

# Looks Around Our Town

## The Bystander

By JIM CONWAY

There has been considerable discussion and controversy during recent months concerning "vicious" dogs throughout the country and yes, even here in Dansville.

That's why we found interesting a report from Steuben County Assemblyman Donald Davidson who recently participated in a public hearing on animal behavior in New York City.

Some of the issues and questions witnesses were asked to address are: Would bans against specific breeds, such as pit bulls, be effective or responsible? Would creating criminal penalties or legal liability pose sufficient deterrents against irresponsible owners? Should registration requirements include minimum liability insurance standards? What would be the most effective way for the law to define "vicious dog"? What effect would new laws have on the manpower, costs, prosecution, etc. of enforcement efforts? Just how would you answer these queries.

Obviously, common sense is needed and Davidson provided some of it when he said "what we really need is not a reaction to a crisis, but a program to enforce the laws already on the books and some additional money for training of personnel to implement the program." That's the stance the Dansville Village Board took at a recent meeting when some residents appeared to complain about a dog in their neighborhood. As you know, dog laws are strictly enforced in the village by Warden Jim McKinney.

Of course it's impossible for him or any warden to prevent a dog from getting loose—that's the responsibility of the owners. Davidson said it was brought out repeatedly at the hearing that the vast majority of dog owners are responsible people and that most of the problems revolve around irresponsible dog owners rather than the dogs themselves. We agree. Almost any breed of dog can be trained to be "vicious" or worse.

Most people have dogs as pets who get along very well with people, both young and old. In some cases, however, dogs are trained to watch over property and they carry out this function very well. They are the type we give a wide berth.

Right now it's the pit bulls gaining the attention as a result of some attacks on children. Previously, other breeds have been accused of being "dangerous." As has been pointed out, common sense and responsible owners can handle the problem. Nothing is 100 percent sure and there will be cases of dogs attacking people. There's no way around

that. Let's hope they are few in number.

Labor Day weekend does more than signal the end of summer. It also means Oktoberfest time in Dansville with the accompanying hot air balloon flights.

The Jackson Hose Co. will host its annual celebration at the firemen's pavilion Friday night through Sunday evening, and the vols promise a good time for all—as such fests have here for many years. Enjoy.

A blurb reached the desk the other day explaining that hot dogs and hamburgers are so All-American that in 1939, President and Mrs. Franklin Roosevelt included them in a Hyde Park picnic given for the visiting King and Queen of England.

Now that's a fact. We had a big family back-yard gathering Sunday which included hots and burgers and all had a royal time. Of course the fried onions and peppers helped. Wonder if FDR did that?

Besides being on a \$5 bill, Abraham Lincoln's portrait is also on a \$1,000 savings bond. We knew about the bill—but not about the bond.

The Livingston County Sheriff's Department has received an "I CARE" appreciation award from the Rochester Eye and Human Parts Bank. Deputies often transport eye tissue from hospitals in the area outside of Rochester following a donation for transplant or research. The special containers go to the Eye Bank's laboratory at the University of Rochester Medical Center for evaluation, processing and distribution.

Enjoy the holiday weekend—and of course have a good day and a nice forever.

### Air Force Woman Promoted at Base

Linda L. Gennaro, daughter of Lucille N. Barnhardt of Leicester and Charles B. Barnhardt of Dansville has been promoted in the Air Force to the rank of staff sergeant.

Gennaro is an administration specialist at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., with the Strategic Air Command.

### Family Gathers For Park Reunion

The 29th annual Rawlings-Kershner family reunion was held recently at Stony Brook State Park.

There were 45 people attending with Ed Kershner of New Port Richy, Fla., being the oldest. Gregory Kershner, son of Lauren and Nicole Kershner of Dansville, was the youngest at the reunion.

## Editor's Mailbox

### Our Readers Speak Out

Editor, The EXPRESS,

I am writing to the class of 1967, D.C.H.S. reunion committee. These "old" classmates of mine made our reunion Aug. 15 a memorable occasion. At first I was little disappointed that we weren't having a more dressy, dinner-dance type of party. However, that feeling was quickly dispelled as I walked down the grassy hill of the Rod and Gun Club toward the pavilion. As soon as I spotted my "old" buddy, Rick Palmer, sitting there making sure everyone had a name tag and instructing us to sign the guest book, I realized that it was the ideal setting, especially in the hot weather that day (up to 100 degrees).

In the pavilion, the atmosphere was casual, just like our class was 20 years ago! It felt like we were 17 or 18 again. The informal setting encouraged people to mingle much more, and as a result, I talked to many more friends and renewed many friendships. I feel this was not the case 10 years ago, as people tended to stay at their dinner tables. It was terrific seeing so many friends whom I

had not seen for so long, some as long as since graduation! Also, it gave me an opportunity to see Dansville again after an absence of about four years, since I no longer have family there. It was interesting to see all the changes and additions to the town in real estate, change of businesses along Main Street, etc.

I would like to say a big Thank You to each person on the reunion committee: Elizabeth (Keysaw) Conrad, Connie (Quattlebaum) Hurlburt, Connie (Whiteman) Mattie (thanks for your nice letter, Connie!), Walt "Rick" Palmer, Bill Rowan and Steve Williams. Their obvious long and hard work made it a very successful time indeed. I can't wait to see the class picture, especially of two certain individuals who were standing on the roof! I hope there can be a reunion every five years until we drop, especially if they're like this last one. Thanks again to the committee and anyone else who helped out anonymously. You helped create memories for many of us for years to come!

Colleen (Dolan) Richardson  
Wolcott, Conn.

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## Junior High Ready for School Year

Dansville Junior High School will open its doors to students for the 1987-88 year next Wednesday morning and 421 pupils are expected to file through the doors.

Students will report to their homeroom to receive a schedule of classes and course assignments.

An extended time is planned to distribute class schedules, locker assignments and for completing opening day information sheets. The cafeteria will be open for full service on the first day. The student handbook also will be distributed Wednesday. Principal Robert Hilliard emphasized that there are some changes, especially in the school discipline policy, which need to be examined by students and parents.

School will begin at 8 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. for the first dismissal and 3:20 p.m. for the late dismissal. Hilliard said the school goal is "students will achieve closer to their potential by demonstrating competence in organizing and completing tasks in an educational setting appropriate to their learning style."

The bicentennial observance of the country's Constitution will be

a highlight of the school year. Also, in grades seven and eight, A and B ability groups are being combine (except in mathematics) in order to meet scheduling priorities. More information on this will follow in the September newsletter to parents.

Price for student lunches this year is 80 cents. Milk will cost 25 cents and ice cream 25 cents.

Three new faculty members will be on hand on opening day. They are James Fiacco, a graduate of Oswego State University College, who will teach social studies; Eric Obenauer, a graduate of Fredonia State University College, who will teach social studies; and Lisa Knickerbocker, a Wells College graduate, who takes over as guidance counselor.

The complete faculty includes:  
Art—Jennifer Luce.  
Business—Joan Castor.  
English—Barbara Hellwig, Alan Howe, Barbara Kurtz, Patricia Washer, Janet Woods.  
Guidance Counselor—Lisa Knickerbocker.  
Health—John Pitcher.  
Home Economics—Marge Dombrowski and Joan Stead.

Industrial Arts—Vincent McGavisk and Walt Washer.  
Foreign Language—Barbara Kurtz, Lori Updyke, Patricia Washer.  
Mathematics—Karen Brion, Clay Harris, Richard Kennell, Roger Reakes.  
Music—Joyce Eaton and Larry Judd.

Physical Education—Fred Hoyt and Pat Shafer.  
Reading—Janice Pirrello and Nancy Murphy (aide).  
Science—Larry Fabian, Sandy Ryan, Joe Shultz, Judy Willing.

Social Studies—Robert Begg, James Fiacco, Eric Obenauer, Ken Morris.

Special Education—Dorothy Hudson, Alice Schreier, Joan Shoop, Mary Ellen Smith (aide).

Library—Betty Minemier, Mary Jo Jacobs (aide).  
School Nurse—Teacher—Lynda Kemp.

Secretarial Staff—Joanne Dodd, Darla Penta, Laurie Potter, Annie Schwenzer, Louise Uhl.

Custodial Staff—Al Mennito, Roger Patterson, Ron Rawleigh, Robert Whiteman.

Home-School Coordinator—

Linda Michel.  
Psychologist—Cheryl Gray.



You're a Marine who's working in Okinawa, Japan. Sitting there reading this in front of your fan. But Daddy, though you're far away we want to take this time to say—Oh Me, Oh My, Oh Gosh, Oh Lordy, It's your birthday and now you're 40!!!

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